

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a user to access interactive program guide features on a display screen on which appears a first display, the method comprising:
 - receiving a menu input from the user;
 - displaying, in response to the menu input, an interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the first display, wherein the interactive program guide menu simultaneously displays a plurality of menu choices corresponding to a plurality of display modes of the interactive program guide; and
 - displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of a particular menu choice from the plurality of menu choices, program guide information that is associated with the particular menu choice.
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program listings display mode.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying a plurality of interactive program listings in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program listings display mode.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program search display mode.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program search display

mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can initiate a restrictive search of a database of program schedule data.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a day to view display mode.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the day to view display mode, a plurality of selectable day options each corresponding to a unique day for which program schedule information is available, wherein program schedule information corresponding to a particular day option is displayed in response to the particular day option being selected.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a favorite channel display mode.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the favorite channel display mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can select a favorite channel line-up.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the first display comprises video for a given television program and wherein displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises displaying the interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the video for the given television program.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the first display comprises an interactive program guide display and wherein displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises displaying the interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the interactive program guide display.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
defining at a remote location operational parameters indicating default menu choices for the interactive program guide menu; and

transmitting the operational parameters to user equipment;
wherein displaying the interactive program guide menu comprises
displaying the interactive program guide menu comprising the default menu choices.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising displaying, in response to receiving from the user a user selection to view additional menu choices, new menu choices in the interactive program guide menu in place of the displayed menu choices.

15. (Currently Amended) An interactive program guide system that allows a user to access interactive program guide features on a display screen on which appears a first display, the system comprising:

a user input device; and
control circuitry configured to:

display, in response to receiving a menu input from the user through the user input device, an interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the first display, wherein the interactive program guide menu simultaneously displays a plurality of menu choices corresponding to a plurality of display modes of the interactive program guide; and

display, in response to receiving through the user input device a user selection of a particular menu choice from the plurality of menu choices, program guide information that is associated with the particular menu choice.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program listings display mode.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the menu choice corresponding to the program listings display mode is the particular menu choice selected by the user and wherein the displayed program guide information comprises a plurality of interactive program listings.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program search display mode.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18 wherein the menu choice corresponding to the program search display mode is the particular menu choice selected by the user and wherein the displayed program guide information comprises an interface from which the user can initiate a restrictive search of a database of program schedule data.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a day to view display mode.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20 wherein the menu choice corresponding to the program search display mode is the particular menu choice selected by the user and wherein the displayed program guide information comprises a plurality of selectable day options each corresponding to a unique day for which program schedule information is available, wherein program schedule information corresponding to a particular day option is displayed in response to the particular day option being selected.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a favorite channel display mode.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the menu choice corresponding to the favorite channel display mode is the particular menu choice selected by the user and wherein the displayed program guide information comprises an interactive program guide interface from which the user can select a favorite channel line-up.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the first display comprises video for a given television program and wherein the interactive program guide menu is displayed simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the video for the given television program.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the first display comprises an interactive program guide display and wherein the interactive program guide menu is displayed simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the interactive program guide display.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 further comprising a remote facility configured to:

define operational parameters indicating default menu choices for the interactive program guide menu; and

transmit the operational parameters to the control circuitry;

wherein the interactive program guide menu displayed in response to receiving the menu input from the user comprises the default menu choices.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the control circuitry is further configured to display, in response to receiving from the user through the user input device a user selection to view additional menu choices, new menu choices in the interactive program guide menu in place of the displayed menu choices.

28. (Currently Amended) An interactive program guide system that allows a user to access interactive program guide features on a display screen on which appears a first display, the system comprising:

means for receiving a menu input from the user;

means for displaying, in response to the menu input, an interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the first display, wherein the interactive program guide menu simultaneously displays a plurality of menu choices corresponding to a plurality of display modes of the interactive program guide; and

means for displaying, in response to means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection of a particular menu choice from the plurality of menu choices, program guide information that is associated with the particular menu choice.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program listings display mode.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the means for displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises means for displaying a plurality of interactive program listings in response to the means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program listings display mode.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program search display mode.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the means for displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises means for displaying, in response to the means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program search display mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can initiate a restrictive search of a database of program schedule data.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a day to view display mode.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33 wherein the means for displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises means for displaying, in response to the means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the day to view display mode, a plurality of selectable day options each corresponding to a unique day for which program schedule information is available, wherein program schedule information corresponding to a particular day option is displayed in response to the particular day option being selected.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a favorite channel display mode.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the means for displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises means for displaying, in response to the means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the favorite channel display mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can select a favorite channel line-up.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein the first display comprises video for a given television program and wherein the means for displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises means for displaying the interactive program guide

menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the video for the given television program.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 wherein the first display comprises an interactive program guide display and wherein the means for displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises means for displaying the interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the interactive program guide display.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 further comprising:
means for defining at a remote location operational parameters indicating default menu choices for the interactive program guide menu; and
means for transmitting the operational parameters to user equipment;
wherein the means for displaying the interactive program guide menu comprises means for displaying the interactive program guide menu comprising the default menu choices.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28 further comprising means for displaying, in response to the means for receiving user selections receiving a user selection to view additional menu choices, new menu choices in the interactive program guide menu in place of the displayed menu choices.

41. (Currently Amended) Computer-readable medium for an interactive program guide system that allows a user to access interactive program guide features on a display screen on which appears a first display, the computer-readable medium having program logic recorded thereon for:

receiving a menu input from the user;
displaying, in response to the menu input, an interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the first display, wherein the interactive program guide menu simultaneously displays a plurality of menu choices corresponding to a plurality of display modes of the interactive program guide; and
displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of a particular menu

choice from the plurality of menu choices, program guide information that is associated with the particular menu choice.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program listings display mode.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 42 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying a plurality of interactive program listings in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program listings display mode.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a program search display mode.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the program search display mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can initiate a restrictive search of a database of program schedule data.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a day to view display mode.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 46 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the day to view display mode, a plurality of selectable day options each corresponding to a unique day for which program schedule information is available, wherein program schedule information corresponding to a particular day option is displayed in response to the particular day option being selected.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the plurality of menu choices comprises a menu choice corresponding to a favorite channel display mode.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 48 wherein displaying program guide information associated with the particular menu choice comprises displaying, in response to receiving a user selection of the menu choice corresponding to the favorite channel display mode, an interactive program guide interface from which the user can select a favorite channel line-up.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the first display comprises video for a given television program and wherein displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises displaying the interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the video for the given television program.

51. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein the first display comprises an interactive program guide display and wherein displaying an interactive program guide menu comprises displaying the interactive program guide menu simultaneously with at least a substantial portion of the interactive program guide display.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 further comprising program logic recorded thereon for:

defining at a remote location operational parameters indicating default menu choices for the interactive program guide menu; and

transmitting the operational parameters to user equipment;

wherein displaying the interactive program guide menu comprises displaying the interactive program guide menu comprising the default menu choices.

53. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41 further comprising program logic recorded thereon for displaying, in response to receiving from the user a user selection to view additional menu choices, new menu choices in the interactive program guide menu in place of the displayed menu choices.